

WALLINGFORD.

The Quinnipiac river was higher yesterday than it has been before for a long time. Above the lake the meadows to Yaleville were all flooded and the water in several places, was over the turnpike and nearly up on the electric road tracks. Below Wallace's, and in fact all the way to Fair Haven the meadows were flooded and in many places it was hard to distinguish where the bed of the river was. The water was rising all day from the effect of the torments of rain that fell Monday night. Northrop's brook on the east side overflowed its banks and flooded everything in the course. On the outside of town in several places the roads were considerably washed out. The rainfall was the heaviest that we have had during the past year.

Among the republicans that took in the McKinley banquet in Hartford last evening were Judge Hubbard, Colonel Leavenworth, Selectman Mix, Representatives Newton and Hough.

The Wallace hose company will hold its regular meeting on Thursday evening this week on account of Good Friday.

The T. A. B.'s are hold rehearsals of the "Golden Gate" this week nearly every evening and will present the drama in the opera house Monday evening.

Edward Treat has joined the ranks of local news gatherers and devotes his labors to the New Haven Register. Captain M. D. Munson is home from a business trip and reports the outlook far from encouraging.

G. M. Hallenbeck and Frank Morse caught ten fish trout yesterday. The muskies had a hard time yesterday as they were drowned out of their houses and shot by the hunters at every point.

Mr. and Mrs. P. O'Connell have a new daughter born yesterday morning.

Gov. McKinley passed through the 10:32 train yesterday morning in a special car and raised his hat in salutation to the gathering of citizens at the depot.

The heavy rain of Monday night washed a portion of the bank on the west side down into Henry Schamberg's garden.

The water in the lake was about two feet higher yesterday than usual owing to the rain of Monday night.

Sherintendent D. R. Knight officiated at the wedding of Edwin A. Richardson, formerly principal at the high school here, and Miss Gertrude Shaw in Sunderland, Mass., to-day at noon.

P. J. Linde was written to correct the information that his son John was mixed up in the row on Colony street last week as it was not so, as his son had no connection whatever with the trouble.

Prince Edward of York.

Prince Edward of York flourishes as a baby should do. When a month or two old his little highness was not the very best of sleepers, but now there is no faint whisper of a sound when he is in his bed. Babes of such an exalted position are always described as bonny and beautiful. But in the case of the "Rose of York," as he is called, no word-portrait could well be too flattering. He really is a lovely child, exquisitely fair and with very blue eyes. So far he bears no resemblance of his mother's family, but has a strong likeness to the Princess of Wales. What amuses those who are most about him is to see him "banter" like the queen. Now, the queen has quite a smile of her own, a smile which transforms her face, and in which each feature, so to speak, seems to take part. Prince Edward, like most infants, looks at the world with portentous solemnity out of his baby eyes. But once succeeded in tickling his fancy, and the queen's own characteristic smile spreads over his face, until those who see him laugh and laugh again.—The Woman at Home.

But "Jock" Darling's whole reputation was not obtained as a guide. He is a recognized authority on the Maine woods. He was chosen, with one other man, to select the state's exhibit of game at the World's Fair, and in the end did all the selecting himself; he writes articles to the sporting papers, and he has something to say about the making of the state game laws, or he knows the reason why. He is a warden himself, but he isn't satisfied with the present arrangement of things. He says the laws up to date have been made by a lot of city chaps, who know nothing about it, and thinks the present force of wardens are picked out indiscriminately from "the riff-raff of hell"—his language is quite picturesque at times. These wardens go about armed with a system of blackmail on unfortunate tourists who transgress the letter of the law, and then proceed to break its spirit into small bits themselves. Mr. Darling believes in enforcing the spirit himself. He pounces down on the men who come up to wantonly destroy the game and let alone the poor man, who takes an occasional meal of venison and fish out of season to keep him from starving. But at present it is a pretty drizzling law in many respects, he thinks, and he quotes as one instance the trouble he had this winter. The law allows you to kill game until the last day of December, but forbids you to transport it at all out of season, no matter when it was killed. Last December he had a party out which killed several caribou and deer and a moose, and when they went home, the first of January, he attempted to get special permission to ship it to them. This was not allowed, and after he had lugged the game down on sledges to the railroad, the railroad company dared not take it, so they stored it all away in a barn. If you want ten deer, six caribou and a moose, you will find them up there in that barn near Crystal now.

However, it seems probable now that the chieftain of the Maine Sportsman's association the legislature is now drawing up a bill which puts all the regulation of the game interests in the hands of three commissioners, who are expected to make a radical change in the administration of the laws. The two present commissioners, who have proved themselves inefficient, will have served their term this year, and will immediately be replaced, and the whole force of game wardens overhauled. Mr. Darling believes a good force of wardens will go far towards securing a proper protection of the game interests, but in addition has many ideas of his own on the subject. For one thing he thinks it perfectly proper to hunt deer with dogs in certain parts of the state, provided there is a proper restriction on the amount of game which can be killed. It is really more humane than still hunting, he thinks, because you don't wound so many to go off in the woods to die. There are of course rigid restrictions now on the amount of game allowed to each person, and the new law will make the number of animals still smaller—allowing but one moose, one caribou and two deer to each hunter.

As a matter of fact, Mr. Darling says, big game is generally on the increase in Maine, with the possible exception of caribou, which is not being shot off, but seems to be moving out of the state into Canada. It is a restless, roving animal, and Mr. Darling can remember once before, when he was a small boy, when it

JOCK DARLING, WOODSMAN.

The Most Famous Guide in the Maine Wilderness—His Talk About the Condition of the Game in the Pine Tree State His Camp on Naticus Lake Sold to New Yorkers.

[From the Springfield Republican.]

A tall, powerful-looking man, with a stoop in the shoulders, a slight bend in the knees and a face with pleasant gray eyes and cheeks like winter apples—that's "Jock" Darling of Naticus, the famous Maine guide. You'd think at first he was a Texan. He wears a light slouch hat, his long moustache has a kind of cowboy droop on each side, and he carries around his store clothes in the same spirit of half-hearted concession to an effete civilization as our western third cousins. He dropped into Springfield early last week on his way down to New York, to visit the friends he has here, and later in the week he stopped again on the way home. He said the first muscles of his legs were as sore as bolts from bumping up stairways and plunking along stone pavements, and he wanted to get up into the Maine woods again and get rested up. He will be back again to New York in May to attend the sportsman's congress in Madison Square Garden, and you really ought to go down and hear him tell about the Maine woods, because there aren't six men alive who know so much about them. He has been traveling over the state since the time when he was first able to drag an old flintlock into the woods until now that, in spite of his black hair, he has a grandson old enough to be a guide in the woods. During his life he has killed one of the deer, one of the moose, one of the caribou and several hundred caribou and bear.

He was born on a backwoods farm thirty-five miles north of Bangor, and stayed on it only until, at the age of seventeen, he was able to take to the woods. Since then he has lived entirely in them, trapping, lumbering and guiding parties, until probably no man in the state is so familiar with them as he. For most of his life he has made his headquarters at Naticus Lake in the country northeast of Bangor. But Darling is to be the guardian saint of the waters of Naticus no longer, for he has already practically closed the sale of his property there to the Naticus club of New York, and next summer proposes to fly away to the head waters of the Penobscot and the Aroostook, where the woods are so full of deer and caribou that they would crowd each other out into the lake if the latter weren't entirely occupied by five-pound trout impatiently waiting to be discovered by some metropolitan explorer with a fly rod. It is such a wilderness up there that the lakes are put down miles wrong on the map; but Jock has known about it since the time when, thirty-five years ago, he did most of his hunting from a point on the lake to build a camp on Grand Sabrois Lake with accommodations for several tents on the grounds. It is a fairly easy place to get to, because a passable wood road leads out there, and he expects to prepare it so that he can take women boarders as well as men. You will have to go well up on the new Aroostook railroad and get off at Crystal, the ride from there to the camp being twenty-five miles.

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left the country entirely and didn't return for thirty years. Deer, however, are growing constantly more plenty, while there are twenty times more moose than twenty years ago. Some thirty years ago the moose were nearly exterminated by the Canada Indians, who came over the line to get their hides for moccasins. Mr. Darling was hunting them himself at the time for the city markets, and when he saw what was going on he took a hand in the game. One winter he killed one hundred himself, but that was a small number compared with those slaughtered by the Indians. Mr. Darling says that he has seen bands of thirty Indian hunters come in together, and each take at least thirty moose hides out with them. In a little while this about cleaned the big animals out, so it did not pay the Indians to come over any longer, and the moose got a rest, which they have been improving ever since. The trapping business is, however, about played out, as most of the fur-bearing animals have been killed early.

For the future with proper game laws, Mr. Darling thinks, there is hope for Maine as a game country. The owners of the timber lands see that the young trees are not cut out, and so the forests are not likely ever to be cut off entirely. The only people who show a disposition to destroy all the trees are the pulp and stove mills, and there are already evidences that their business is being overdone. Few settlers are coming in, and indeed the owners of the forests are not willing to sell them land. Mr. Darling isn't much on backwoods tales. He has had his experiences of course. For instance, he well might tell you of the time he and another man came across three bears under a log, and when they had exhausted the charges killing the first, how they sacrificed the third with a hatchet. Then there is that recent addition to his vocabulary which he made this winter while fishing through the ice. The trout were so thick, he says, that while one man was hauling in a fish another man was jumping out after it on the ice in its ferocious pursuit of the bait. He had heard of trout being so thick in a hole you had to put your hat over it to keep them from jumping out, but never saw it before. Besides he can tell of any number of times when he has been caught out in the woods at night and nearly frozen to death before morning. It is particularly chilly, he says, to spend the night in the snow after chasing a deer all day and having gotten your clothes full of what they call in Maine "sweat."

But, after all, Mr. Darling really does more in the line of chastening the imagination of others than of venturing his own. For instance, you would naturally think from what you read in your family "magazine of fireside horrors" that it was worth your life to tackle a moose in the woods, but Mr. Darling says that out of the one thousand he has killed only one was coming toward him, while bears will make every possible effort to avoid you. A deer yard, it seems, is another popular fancy. The public has an idea that a lot of helpless animals stand herded in a

small space, which they have trodden down in the deep snow, waiting to be slaughtered. As a matter of fact, a yard is merely a piece of woods where the animals are feeding, and may be a mile across. Still another popular delusion, quite common in our cities, is that of a man who considers himself a true woodsman because he has had a guide paddle him across a Maine lake or two, while he hung on to both sides of a birch bark canoe and wondered if the fact that his hair was parted in the middle would be any considerable factor in saving him from a watery grave. Mr. Darling has a sort of paternal feeling of pity for his city friends—"sports," he calls them. He has seen two of them, he says, in the presence of big game, but the more common practice is to get the end of the muzzle in line with a deer and blaze away into the atmosphere, without any special regard as to how the barrel is pointed.

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